

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 IO-14 ACDA-19

SCCT-02 SAB-01 SAM-01 SR-02 ORM-03 /118 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI - WTCLUVERIUS:DF

APPROVED BY NEA - SSOBER

NEA/ARN - DAKORN

S/S:WHLUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104439

TOSEC 766

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, IS, LE

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARAB AMERICANS

1. DELEGATION FROM NATIONAL ASSN. ARAB AMERICANS, NOW IN ANNUAL CONVENTION HERE, CALLED ON DEPASST SECRETARY SOBER MAY 17 TO PRESS THEIR VIEW THAT USG SHOULD "MAKE CLEAR TO WORLD" DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ACTS OF TERROR BY INDIVIDUALS, SUCH AS AT MAALOT, WHICH DELEGATION DEPLORED, AND SIMILAR ACTS BY MEMBER OF COMMUNITY OF NATIONS, SUCH AS ISRAELI RAIDS ON PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CAMP. DELEGATION STRESSED THEIR ASSOCIATION'S SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY'S EFFORTS TOWARD PEACE. THEY EMPHASIZED THAT THEY SUPPORT EXISTENCE OF STATE OF ISRAEL AND REJECT VIOLENCE AS MEANS TO POLITICAL ENDS. THEY URGED THAT USG EXERCISE ITS INFLUENCE TO CONSTRAIN ISRAEL FROM AGAIN "MISUSING" U.S.-
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SUPPLIED WEAPONS IN ATTACKS ON INNOCENT CIVILIANS.

2. SOBER POINTED OUT THAT WE DEPLORE LOSS OF INNOCENT LIFE WHEREVER IT OCCURS AND PROVIDED DELEGATION WITH COPIES OF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT OF LEBANON, SECRETARY'S AND AMBASSADOR SCALI'S STATEMENTS FOLLOWING ISRAELI AIR ATTACKS. SOBER NOTED THAT OBVIOUSLY WE DO NOT HAVE ABSOLUTE CONTROL OVER GOI'S ACTIONS BUT THAT GOI WELL AWARE WE DO NOT BELIEVE EYE-FOR-AN-EYE IS A POLICY WHICH WILL ADVANCE CAUSE OF PEACE. ASKED WHAT USG, PARTICULARLY DEPT., IS DOING TO BREAK CYCLE OF VIOLENCE,

SOBER SAID IT SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT USG, AND DEPT., ATTACKING THE PROBLEM AT ITS ROOTS BY THE ROLE, WHICH IS HIGHLY VULNERABLE ONE, WE HAVE BEEN PLAYING AND WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY IN SEARCH FOR THE PEACE WHICH IS ONLY CURE FOR THE KIND OF VIOLENCE WE HAVE WITNESSED OVER PAST TWO DAYS.

3. FYI. ASSOCIATION OF ARAB-AMERICANS IS RESPONSIBLE, THREE YEAR OLD UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION FOR ARAB-AMERICANS. DELEGATION'S CALL ON SOBER WAS AT THEIR URGENT REQUEST DUE TO IMPACT OF ISRAELI RAIDS ON ATTENDEES AT THEIR ANNUAL CONVENTION. DELEGATION IMPRESSED BY SOBER'S REQUEST FOR THEIR PERMISSION PASS ESSENCE OF THEIR PRESENTATION TO SECRETARY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, TOSEC 766, MINISTERIAL VISITS, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE104439
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WTCLUVERIUS:DF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740123-0344
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740536/aaaabfjb.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARAB AMERICANS
TAGS: PFOR, XF, IS, LE, NATIONAL ASSOC OF ARAB AMERICANS
To: JERUSALEM
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005